

# MI-WIC POLICY

## ***Eligibility/Certification***

### **2.0 Eligibility/Certification**

*Effective Date: DRAFT*

#### **2.09 Physical Presence**

**PURPOSE:** To establish requirements and exceptions for physical presence of an applicant/client at the certification visit.

#### **A. Policy**

1. Persons applying for WIC services are required to be physically present at each WIC certification. Exceptions may be granted for the following reasons:

- a. Individuals with disabilities, or their parents/caretakers with disabilities, who are unable to be physically present at the WIC clinic because of:
  - i. A medical condition that necessitates the use of medical equipment that is not easily transportable.
  - ii. A medical condition that requires bed rest.
  - iii. A serious illness that may be exacerbated by coming in to the WIC clinic.
- b. Infants and children who were physically present for the initial certification and have documented, ongoing health care, and being physically present would pose an unreasonable barrier.
- c. Infants and children who were physically present for the initial certification **and** were present at a certification visit within 1 year from the most recent certification determination, **and** are under the care of one or more parents/caretakers whose work status presents a barrier to bringing the infant or child to the WIC clinic.
- d. Infants under 8 weeks of age, who for reasons determined appropriate by the local agency, cannot be present at certification.

Note: In these instances, the local agency may require a CPA to verify the existence of the infant by the age of 8 weeks.

- e. A client who was visited and screened at home or in another local agency program by a CPA staff, provided that all elements of WIC certification have been completed and provided to WIC clinic staff.

#### **B. GUIDANCE**

1. Local agency policy may be developed which requires infants not present at the initial certification visit to be scheduled for an appointment by 2 months of age for growth and/or nutritional assessment.

Reference:

7 CFR 246.7(o)